

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

VIA ZOOM

Monday, October 6, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectboard members Matt Lord, Rich Kuklewicz, and Marina Goldman; Town Administrator Walter Ramsey; Assistant Town Administrator Chris Nolan-Zeller; Executive Assistant Fern Smith; Airport Manager Bryan Camden; Parks and Recreation Director Jon Dobosz; and Town Planner Maureen Pollock.

Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken

Approve Minutes: Montague Meetings of September 29, 2025

Goldman makes the motion to approve the minutes of September 29, 2025. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved.

Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment

None

Special Licenses

- **Orice Jenkins, Executive Director, Musica Franklin**

Request for a Special Entertainment License for event on 5/30/2026 at Unity Park from 12:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Lord makes the motion to approve the application for a Special Entertainment License for an event by Musica Franklin on 5/30/2026 at Unity Park from 12:30 PM - 5:30 PM, subject to the approval by the Turners Falls Fire Chief and the Police Chief. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Lord - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Jason Cohen, Montague Retreat Center**

Request for One Day Special License for the sale of Beer and Wine at Montague Retreat, 177 Ripley Road, Montague, MA on November 1, 2025 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the application for a One Day Special License for the sale of Beer and Wine at Montague Retreat, 177 Ripley Road, Montague, MA on November 1, 2025 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM., contingent on receipt of the TIPS Certification and insurance binder. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye

Personnel Board

- **Bellamine Dickerman, Montague Housing Authority Director**

Appoint Deb Bourbeau to the Montague Housing Authority Board for the term of 4 years and 8 months, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 121B, §5

Kuklewicz makes the motion to appoint Deb Bourbeau to the Montague Housing Authority Board for the term of 4 years and 8 months, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 121B, §5, effective October 7, 2025. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye

- **Bryan Camden, Airport Manager**

Appoint Ray Dyer, Franklin County Technical School student, to Grounds Maintenance at Turners Falls Airport for 9 months, 40 hours/bi-weekly, at a\$16.50/hour, effective 10/13/2025

Goldman makes the motion to appoint Ray Dyer, Franklin County Technical School student, to Grounds Maintenance at Turners Falls Airport for 9 months, 40 hours/bi-weekly, at a\$16.50/hour, effective 10/13/2025. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye

Maureen Pollock, Director of Planning & Conservation

Authorize a Conservation Restriction for the ± 31.39-acre property located on Sunderland Road (Assessor's Mp 50, Lots 16 and 17), from Elinor S. Wright to Franklin Land Trust, Inc. in the public interest pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 184, §§ 31, 32, and 33

Goldman makes the motion to authorize a Conservation Restriction for the ± 31.39-acre property located on Sunderland Road (Assessor's Map 50, Lots 16 and 17), from Elinor S. Wright to Franklin Land Trust, Inc. in the public interest pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 184, §§ 31, 32, and 33. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye

Shea Community Theater Lease Agreement

Authorize 10-year lease agreement extension with Shea Theater Arts Center, Inc., to commence 1/1/2026

- Goldman recuses herself.
- *Lord makes the motion to authorize the 10-year lease agreement extension with Shea Theater Arts Center, Inc., to commence 1/1/2026. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

Fall Special Town Meeting October 22nd, 2024

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

VIA ZOOM

Monday, October 6, 2025 at 6:30 PM

- **STM Warrant - To approve and execute Draft October 22nd, 2025 Warrant, as attached hereto**
 - Lord reads aloud each Article.
 - Lord makes the motion to approve and execute the Warrant for the October 22nd, 2025 Special Town Meeting Warrant as read. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Lord - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
- **Vote Selectboard recommendations to Town Meeting on Warrant Articles**
 - Lord makes the motion to recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 1. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Lord- Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye
 - Lord makes the motion to recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 2. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Lord- Aye, Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
 - Lord makes the motion to recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 3. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Lord- Aye, Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
 - Lord makes the motion to recommend to Town Meeting to approve Articles 4-14. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Lord- Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye
 - Lord makes the motion to recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 15. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Lord- Aye, Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
 - Lord makes the motion to recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 16. Seconded by Goldman, approved. Lord- Aye, Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Abstain

Assistant Town Administrator's Business

- **Discuss strategy with respect to new Environment & Climate One Stop Grant Program**

Nolan-Zeller discusses the strategy with respect to new Environment & Climate One Stop Grant Program. This involves a single application for several different programs.
- **Other Project Updates**
 - **Screw Pump Project**

Lord makes the motion to grant the Assistant Town Administrator the authority to make a Work Change Directive in an amount no greater than \$20,000 for a screw pump installation at the Montague Clean Water Facility. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Lord - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
 - **Turners Falls Road Closures**

Canal Street, 4th Street, and the 5th Street Bridge are now reopened.

Town Administrator's Business

- **Status of Regional School District Agreement from Six-Town Regionalization Planning Board**

Ramsey states that the Six-Town Regionalization Planning Board is still working with the Department of Education and Secondary Education to finalize the Regional School District Agreement. He does not think they will be able to meet the October 14 deadline.
- **Authorize Town Administrator to enter a 36-month electricity supply contract with Constellation Energy**

Kuklewicz makes the motion to authorize the Town Administrator to enter a 36-month electricity supply contract with Constellation Energy at a rate no higher than \$.13/kWh. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye
- **Executive Collective Bargaining Agreements with the New England Police Benevolent Association Local 183 (Patrol and Detectives) and Local 184 (Sergeants) FY26-28**

Kuklewicz makes the motion to execute the Agreements with New England Police Benevolent Association Local 183 (Patrol and Detectives) and Local 184 (Sergeants) for FY26-28. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye
- **Virtual Pre-Town Meeting and Town Meeting Member Orientation Wed., Oct. 15, starting at 6:00 PM**

Ramsey announces and outlines the Virtual Pre-Town Meeting and Town Meeting Member Orientation Wed., Oct. 15, starting at 6:00 PM. Invitations will be sent out tomorrow.
- **Topics not anticipated within the 48-hour posting requirements/Bulky Waste Collection Day**

The Bulky Waste Collection Day is going to be on Saturday, October 18 from 9:00 AM to noon. Residents must register in advance.

Executive Session: M.G.L. c30A, §21(a)2 To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel: next Police Chief

Goldman makes the motion to enter into Executive Session: M.G.L. c30A, §21(a)2 To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel: next Police Chief. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

VIA ZOOM

Monday, October 6, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Next Meetings:

Montague Selectboard

October 20, 2025 @ 6:00 PM via ZOOM

Fall Special Town Meeting

October 22, 2025 @ 6:30 PM at Turners Falls High School Theater, 222 Turnpike Road, Montague, MA